

## INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

John Hoeven Governor Wayne Stenehjem Attorney General Roger Johnson Agriculture Commissioner

News Release

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For Immediate Release

## KRINGSTAD NAMED ND PIPELINE AUTHORITY DIRECTOR

Bismarck – The North Dakota Industrial Commission (NDIC) today named Justin J. Kringstad as director of the North Dakota Pipeline Authority.

The Authority was established by the 2007 North Dakota Legislature to facilitate development of energy-related pipeline facilities. It is governed by the North Dakota Industrial Commission, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson, and is funded by the Oil and Gas Research Fund.

"Pipeline infrastructure is key to further development of our state's vast natural and renewable resources," said the commission members in a joint statement. "The authority will promote the planning, siting and construction of intrastate and interstate pipelines needed to enhance North Dakota's energy resources development and encourage export of these energy resources."

A Bismarck native, Kringstad graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2007 with a degree in geological engineering. He has previously worked for the Department of Mineral Resources and the Energy and Environmental Research Center. He and his wife Kathryn live in Bismarck.

Industrial Commission Executive Director Karlene Fine said Kringstad will meet with agencies and companies to identify areas where the Pipeline Authority can help develop infrastructure. He will also develop a website to provide current information on pipeline activities throughout the state and will update white papers that have been presented during the past year.

"As the work of the Pipeline Authority has developed over the past year, it has become apparent that dissemination of information to citizens and policy makers is one of its key roles," Fine said.